

REMARKS

The Notice of Panel Decision from Pre-Appeal Brief Review dated May 2, 2006 has been received and carefully noted. The above amendments to the claims, and the following remarks, are submitted as a full and complete response thereto. Claims 1, 4, 9, and 10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 6, 11, 12, 16-19, 21, 23-47, 49-52, and 55-60 remain pending in the application

The final Office Action dated October 14, 2005 rejected claims 1, 4, 9, and 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Baker (U.S. Patent No. 6,292,494). As mentioned above, claims 1, 4, 9, and 10 have been canceled without prejudice. Therefore, the rejection of these claims is rendered moot.

Claims 6, 11, 12, 16-19, 21, 23-47, 49-52, and 55-60 were indicated as being allowed and Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the allowance of these claims. Since all of pending claims 6, 11, 12, 16-19, 21, 23-47, 49-52, and 55-60 have been allowed, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

If for any reason the Examiner determines that the application is not now in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact, by telephone, the applicants' undersigned attorney at the indicated telephone number to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this application.

In the event this paper is not being timely filed, the applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. Any fees for such an extension together with any additional fees may be charged to Counsel's Deposit Account 50-2222.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: Request for Continued Examination